



A Journey into Gravity and Spacetime ("Scientific American" Library)

By John Archibald Wheeler

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Gravity is not a force acting at a distance. It is mass gripping spacetime, telling it how to curve, and spacetime gripping mass, telling it how to move. According to preeminent physicist John Archibald Wheeler, gravity makes the closest connection between the world we see around us and the inner-most workings of the universe.

In this imaginative volume, Wheeler explores gravity and spacetime by applying Einstein's battle-tested theory to both familiar and exotic phenomena--everything from flying tennis balls, to hurling gravity waves from crashing stars, the motion of the planets, and the collapse of a star into a black hole. It's a provocative, revealing, fully engaging scientific journey led by a frontline participant in the most important work in physics in the last 50 years.

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Review

"*Journey into Gravity and Spacetime* is a colorful and imaginative introduction to a topical subject, delightfully produced. Wheeler complements his subject by continually demonstrating its underlying simplicity, in the face of the apparent magnitude of the task. I recommend this book to anyone wishing to gain an honest insight into the wonders of gravity and the physics of spacetime." -- *Times Higher Education Supplement*

"A thorough exploration of Einstein's geometric theory of gravity and its implications for the relationship between mass and spacetime." -- *Nature*

"I am reading Wheeler so that I can write more intelligently about Einstein's general theory of relativity." -- *Isaac Asimov, Night Table Reading, Vanity Fair*

"Wheeler takes the reader into a world of space-time, gravitational waves, and black holes. As one of the foremost contributors to the study of relativity, and as the person mainly responsible for the resurgence of interest in general relativity in the 1960s, he is well qualified to write such a book. . . . Strongly recommended." -- *Choice*

About the Author

John Archibald Wheeler is Joseph Henry Professor Emeritus at Princeton University and was, until his retirement, Blumberg Professor of Physics and Director, Center for Theoretical Physics at the University of Texas at Austin. A past president of the American Physical Society, he is a recipient of the Enrico Fermi Award (1968), the National Medal of Science (1971), the Niels Bohr International Gold Medal (1982) and the Wolf Prize (1997).

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